



**Stó:lō  
Xwexwilmexw  
Treaty  
Association**

February 28, 2022

Dear Leaders, community members and staff

Wishing you the best of 2022

Our work and the ability to gather together has been severely impacted by Covid and the variant strains of the virus. Meetings have continued on Zoom but it is not an ideal mode for sharing a meal, exchanging thoughts and ideas and building our vision to accomplish self-government.

The six leaders of Aitchelitz, Skowkale, Tzeachten, Leq'á:mel, Yakweakwioose and Skawahlook First Nations, who comprise the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Government (SXG) Board of Directors, began meeting with the negotiators for BC and Canada November 10, 2021, as we were frustrated with the lack of progress being made. The Treaty Negotiating Team (TNT) normally met with the negotiators, but we determined the political voices needed to be present to share our respective communities' frustrations, concerns and direction. During this period, Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA) changed to Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Government as of October 28, 2021, further asserting our governance.

The six leaders have taken over the entire process of negotiating with the support of the TNT and staff. In December 2021, we advised all parties of the need to change our priority to acquiring the land and cash to show tangible progress in the negotiations. BC and Canada welcomed this change and we have begun organizing the processes we will need to achieve our goals.

One of these processes is a restructuring of the current systems and organization, to maximize on our goals and priorities. The review will include the TNT, the lawyers, the contractors and the staff structures. We are seeking a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for the SXG, as the current CEO desires to remain with the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre. We are hopeful that this process will be completed in the next 3 – 4 months. We will update you when there is progress to report and appreciate your patience and support during this time of transition.

We look forward to gathering again soon. Take good care of yourselves as Covid has affected so many of our community members.

In Unity,

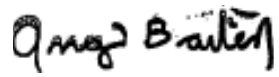
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maureen Chapman'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Maureen Chapman**  
President, Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Government

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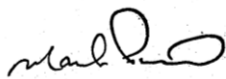
[www.sxta.bc.ca](http://www.sxta.bc.ca)



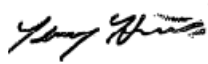
Chief Angie Bailey  
Vice-President, Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Government



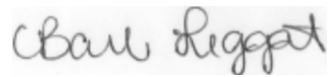
Chief Derek Epp  
Secretary Treasurer, Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Government



Chief Mark Point  
Board of Directors Member, Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Government



Chief Terry Horne  
Board of Directors Member, Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Government



Councillor Barb Leggat  
Board of Directors Member, Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Government